

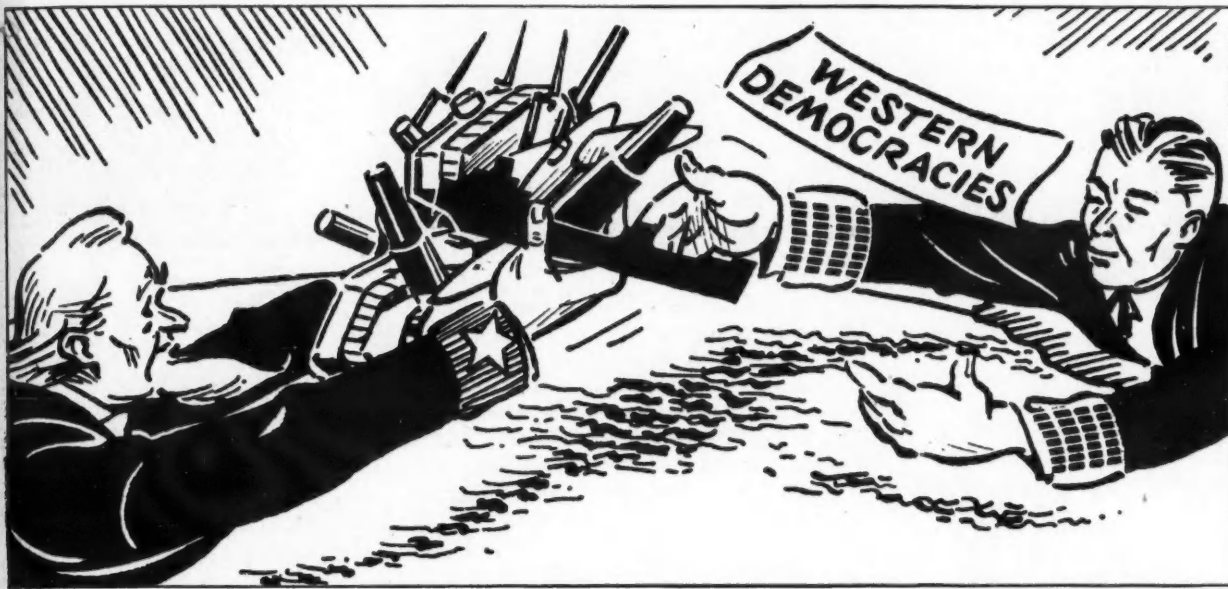
# The American Observer

*A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe*

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SHALL WE send military aid to Europe in addition to the economic help we are giving countries there?

## Europe's Military Union

**As Recovery Program Makes Progress, U. S. Is Investigating Need of Western Countries for Aid to Help Them Build Up Defensive Armies**

NOW that the European Recovery Program for giving economic aid to nations of western Europe is well under way, U. S. officials have been exploring the possibility of extending military aid to these countries. Many conferences have been held during the past few months, in both the United States and Canada, to work out plans for helping Britain, France, and other nations of western Europe strengthen their military defenses. It has even been proposed that the United States and Canada enter into a defensive alliance with these European nations.

The need for stronger armed forces in the western European countries was recently emphasized by special ambassador Averell Harriman. Upon his return to this country after spending six months in Europe studying the "cold war" and the European Recovery Program, he made the following statement to news reporters in Washington, D. C.:

"The nations of western Europe will recover faster if they strengthen their military defenses at once. These countries are now gripped by fear of Russia, and this fear retards their economic recovery. If we can strengthen their military forces they will feel more confident about the future and will make more rapid progress toward recovery."

Five of the European countries have already taken one important step in this direction. Britain and France, along with the so-called "Benelux" countries (Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg) held a conference in Brussels last March and agreed upon plans for close military and economic cooperation for the future. They signed a 50-year defensive alliance to protect themselves against an attack by the Soviet Union—or by Germany if it ever again becomes a menace.

On the day that this "Brussels Pact" was signed (last March 17), President Truman delivered a message to the U. S. Congress urging speedy appropriation of money for the European Recovery Program and approval of plans for building up our own Army, Navy, and Air Force. At the same time he said the formation of the 5-nation European defense pact was a step in the right direction and deserved our full support.

"I am sure that the determination of the free countries of Europe to protect themselves," he declared, "will be matched by an equal determination on our part to help them. We must be prepared to pay the price for peace,

or we shall have to pay the price of war."

When Congress meets next month it will take up the requests for military aid which are being received from the European nations. President Truman is expected to discuss the subject further in his message to Congress and to recommend a definite plan of action. Committees of Congress will then study the problem carefully and will report their conclusions to the Senate and House of Representatives for final decision on the matter.

How much help will the western European countries need from Canada (Concluded on page 6)

## Taft-Hartley Act Center of Debate

**President Promises to Push Its Repeal, But May Support Substitute Measure**

WHAT will happen to the Taft-Hartley labor law when Congress meets in January? Businessmen, labor leaders, political officials, and the general public are wondering about the answer to this question. Many of them believe that revising this law will be the most important national issue to face the new Congress.

The Taft-Hartley Act, which was passed by Congress 18 months ago, placed many restrictions on the labor unions and granted a number of new rights to employers. It replaced the Wagner Act, which had been adopted in 1935 to guarantee workers the right to form labor unions and bargain collectively. The new law was highly approved by businessmen, but it was denounced by organized labor.

During the recent political campaign the Taft-Hartley Act was one of the most important issues on which the Republican and Democratic parties disagreed. The Republican candidate, Governor Dewey, praised the law and said it should not be changed, except in a few minor details. On the other hand, President Truman, who had vetoed the law when it was first passed by Congress, called for its immediate repeal.

It was mainly for this reason that the great majority of labor unions supported President Truman and helped him win the election on November 2. At the same time, the (Concluded on page 2)

## Example of Good Sportsmanship

By Walter E. Myer

THE football team of the University of California at Los Angeles has had a bad season. Its recent defeat at the hands of Southern California was the seventh loss in a row. The Associated Press reported that, when the game was over and the players had changed from their football uniforms to street clothes, Coach Bert La Brucherie was slow in coming from the dressing room. He no doubt had visions of the disappointed rooters and hated to meet their boos.

This was a serious situation for him. A team's supporters are frequently intolerant of failure and blame is often laid at the door of the coach. After a string of defeats angry students and other fans may demand his dismissal and it is not unusual for a coach to lose his job after an unsuccessful season. It is not surprising that Coach La Brucherie should have been a little slow in showing himself.

It appears, however, that the UCLA

rooters display high standards of sportsmanship, for when the coach appeared "the rooters swarmed over him and carried him away on their shoulders, chanting, 'We'll see you next fall, Bert.'"

This is an example which should be widely followed. The student who becomes angry and resentful when his team loses is the worst kind of sport. He advertises his own impatience, egotism and unfairness. He wants the team to win so that he may be on the winning side. He shines in the team's reflected glory and has a sense of importance.

If his team fails to win he feels "let down," senses the sting of personal defeat, and salves his wounded pride by attacks upon the team. He doesn't realize that if he is to share in the team's victories he must share its defeats.

The coach and team need support more when they lose than when they win. If defeat comes it hurts the coach more than it does the students and

rooters. A player feels worse about his blunders than the outsider.

When a team suffers a string of defeats it doesn't mean, necessarily, that the players did less than their best or that the coach is inefficient. It may be that the coach does not have good material to work with. It may mean that some other school or college has drained away the best players by subsidies. Or there may be other reasons for losses.

If, over a long period of time, a team loses consistently students and supporters have a right to inquire what is the matter. But the players and the coach should be assured that the rooters are their friends in victory or defeat. Sportsmanship and character go along together, and the Los Angeles students showed both in their recent severe test.



Walter E. Myer



# Discussion of Taft-Hartley Measure

(Concluded from page 1)

unions worked hard to defeat members of Congress who favored the Taft-Hartley Act, and to elect candidates who stood for its repeal or revision. They succeeded in bringing about the defeat of almost 80 members of Congress who had voted for the new labor law last year. (But both the House and Senate still include a majority who voted for it.)

In his message to Congress next January, President Truman is expected to propose that the Taft-Hartley Act be repealed. At the same time, he may recommend that new legislation more favorable to labor unions be enacted to take its place. These proposals will probably result in lengthy debates on the Taft-Hartley Act in Congress and widespread public discussion of its provisions.

In the following paragraphs we take up five of the most important provisions of the law (printed in italics) and give the arguments for and against each one. These are the opinions which will probably be expressed in Congress and over the radio when the nation's lawmakers tackle the difficult problem of enacting new labor legislation.

1. *The closed shop is outlawed.* (The closed shop is a factory or place of business in which only union members are employed. It is closed to everyone who does not belong to the union.)

Those who believe this provision of the Taft-Hartley Act should remain in force say that the closed shop is unfair to unorganized workers and grants labor unions too much power. It gives a monopoly on jobs in certain industries to union members. No worker, it is said, should be forced to join a union before he can get a job.

Furthermore, it is argued that the closed shop gives union officials too much power over individual workers. If a member of the union does something to offend the officials, he runs the risk of being expelled from the union and losing his right to work in a closed shop. As a result, individual

members are afraid to do anything their powerful leaders may not like.

Defenders of the closed shop reply that it is necessary to protect unions against unfriendly employers who would otherwise hire as many unorganized workers as possible. They also argue that the closed shop is desirable because it eliminates conflicts between union and non-union workers. Strikes are often made more violent by fighting between organized and unorganized workers.

Labor leaders say the closed shop is fair and democratic because it requires all workers in a shop to support the union which has been chosen by the majority. They say that no one should expect to share the benefits won by a union without helping to support it. Since the union strives to get higher wages and better working conditions for all employees it should have the support of all of them.

## Union Shop

2. *The union shop, under the Taft-Hartley law, is permitted only if a majority of the workers vote for it in a secret election.* (The union shop is a factory or place of business where non-union workers may be hired but must, within a short time, join the union to keep their jobs.)

Those who believe this provision of the Taft-Hartley Act should be kept in force say it is perfectly fair to both union and non-union workers. If a majority of the employees in a plant want to make it a union shop they have the right to do so. But if less than half the workers want a union shop they do not have the right to force their ideas upon the majority.

Spokesmen for the unions reply that the elections required by the law are entirely unnecessary. They say that hundreds of such "union shop elections" have been held (at great expense to the government) since the law was passed, and in 98 per cent of the cases the workers have voted overwhelmingly in favor of a union shop. It is argued that this shows the work-

ers really want the union shop and proves the elections are not necessary.

3. *Jurisdictional strikes are forbidden.* (A jurisdictional strike is one which results from a conflict between two unions, not between a union and an employer. Such a strike might occur, for example, when carpenters and metal workers quarrel over who is to install steel window-frames in a new building.)

Labor unions want to see this part of the Taft-Hartley law repealed. They say that jurisdictional strikes occur so seldom that they are not a serious national problem. Anti-union employers, according to union leaders, have raised such an outcry about such strikes that many people believe they occur every day. Labor unions themselves, it is said, are doing everything possible to settle their disputes without having jurisdictional strikes, and the government should not interfere with them.

Those who want this part of the law to remain on the statute books say that jurisdictional strikes, no matter how seldom they occur, are very unfair to employers and should be prohibited by law. Such strikes sometimes cause heavy losses to an employer who has no part in the dispute. Why should an employer suffer just because two rival unions cannot agree on who is to do a certain job?

4. *Union officials must take an oath that they are not Communists.*

Congress should not repeal this provision of the law, many people say, because it is needed to keep Communists from getting control of American labor unions. Recent history has proved that in other countries Communists have worked their way into high positions in labor unions and have then used their power to cause unnecessary strikes and serve as agents for the Soviet Union. The law, it is claimed, has already brought about a "house-cleaning" in some unions where Communists had gained control. Why should any loyal American object to taking an oath that he does not believe in communism?

Opponents of this section of the law say that it is an insult to American labor unions to require their officers to take an oath that they are not Communists. They say it is an attempt by anti-labor forces to "smear" the whole labor movement—to make it seem that many union leaders are Communists. Most of the nation's outstanding labor leaders have opposed communism for many years, it is argued, and they resent having their loyalty and patriotism questioned when no similar requirement is imposed on employers.

5. *Strikes which threaten the national health or safety may be delayed by an injunction (court order) for 80 days.*

Opponents of this provision argue as follows: "It should be repealed because it merely delays strikes and does not settle them. For example, it was unable to prevent the latest shipping strike. It is based on the unsound idea that there will be fewer strikes if workers are forced to take time to think things over and let their tempers cool off. Experience has shown that we cannot prevent strikes by requiring a 'cooling-off pe-



THE PATIENT is very uneasy—will the dentist pull all or only part of his teeth?

riod' but only by eliminating the low wages and other conditions which cause strikes."

It is also contended that the 80-day delay often proves to be a serious handicap for the unions. In some industries unions can hope to win their demands only if they strike during the busy season of the year. If they are forced to wait for 80 days they may find that their chances of winning the strike are less favorable.

Those who want to keep this part of the law argue that it gives us some protection against strikes which endanger the national health or safety. The 80-day delay allows time for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to step in and try to bring the two parties to an agreement. It also gives public opinion an opportunity to form and exert its influence on both the union and the employer.

Supporters of this provision of the law continue their argument as follows: "The cooling-off plan was first included in the Railway Labor Act of 1926, which has been one of the most successful labor laws in our history. It is not unreasonable to require that a strike which threatens the national health or safety be postponed for 80 days while efforts are made to settle the dispute peacefully. We simply cannot permit disputes between workers and employers to paralyze the nation's economic life."

## References

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CONGRESSMAN FRED HARTLEY (left) and Senator Robert Taft, co-authors of the controversial Taft-Hartley Labor Act

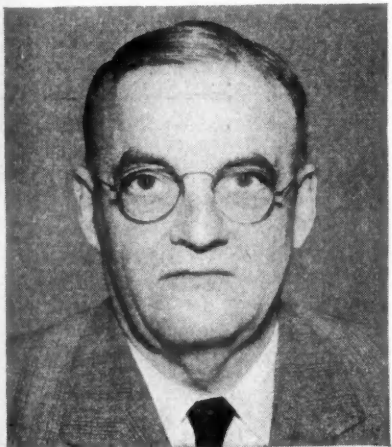


## Newsmaker

WHEN the outcome of last month's presidential election became known, it was felt by some that John Foster Dulles' influence in the conduct of our foreign affairs might decline. Mr. Dulles, who has served on the U. S. delegation to the UN General Assembly ever since the world organization was established, is not only a lifelong Republican, but was also one of Thomas Dewey's closest advisers. Events since that time indicate, however, that Dulles will continue to play a prominent role in our international relations. During the recent absence from Paris of Secretary of State Marshall and Warren Austin, President Truman designated Mr. Dulles as acting chief of the U. S. delegation. In taking this action, the President showed his intention of continuing our "bipartisan" foreign policy and paid a high tribute to Dulles' ability in foreign affairs.

Mr. Dulles' interest in international relations dates back to his boyhood in Washington, D. C., where his grandfather, John Foster, used to tell him stories of diplomatic life. Mr. Foster had been Secretary of State under Benjamin Harrison, and had headed American legations in various countries. Young Dulles' first contact with international affairs came in 1907 when, as a 19-year-old youth, he served as his grandfather's secretary at The Hague Peace Conference.

Graduating from Princeton a year later as top man in his class, Dulles then undertook the study of law. In



John Foster Dulles

1911 he entered the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell where he specialized in international cases.

Dulles learned still more about foreign affairs from his uncle, Robert Lansing, who served as Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson. Lansing helped his nephew get a job as a State Department agent in Central America in 1917. Two years later Dulles was a member of the U. S. delegation to the Versailles Peace Conference. During the following two decades, he became recognized as an expert in international finance.

Since World War II, Mr. Dulles has been a prominent figure at gatherings of the United Nations and at some of the meetings of the Council of Foreign Ministers. A staunch supporter of the Marshall Plan, he believes we must help the countries of Western Europe to get back on their feet, and must protect them from any aggressor while they rebuild.

—By HOWARD O. SWEET.



CARE PACKAGES are helping many families in other lands

## Sending Happiness Abroad

Ten-Dollar Gift Packages Made Available Through CARE Furnish Useful Items for Families in Other Countries

CARE, one of the leading organizations through which Americans can send packages of food and other supplies to the inhabitants of needy, war-torn countries, is now in the midst of its Christmas rush. Since the war, CARE has already delivered well over 60 million dollars' worth of goods, or about 7 million packages, to people overseas, and the gift parcels handled this month will raise its total considerably.

The association, whose full name is "Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe," represents 26 American welfare groups. The first packages it distributed, about three years ago, were made up of surplus food that the U. S. Army had on hand in Europe. When this stock dwindled, CARE had to start shipping its own supplies across the Atlantic.

At present, the organization operates not only in Europe, but also in the Far Eastern lands of Japan, Korea, and Okinawa. Here is the way its system works:

An American sends a check or money order to CARE. For parcels of most types he pays 10 dollars each. If he prefers, he can let the association decide what kind of package the money is to buy, and where this package is to be sent. Usually, however, the giver selects a certain type of parcel from the dozen or more which CARE offers, and names the foreign family for whom it is intended. CARE then handles the delivery of the gift.

Among the packages which the association provides are several kinds of food parcels, varied according to the tastes of people in different parts of the world; supplies of baby food; bundles of woolen cloth and sewing materials; and sets of blankets or sheets. The standard food package weighs 22 pounds.

The material that a 10-dollar parcel contains is worth a great deal more than 10 dollars at the prices that an American consumer now pays. CARE, though, gets its goods at low cost because it buys such large quantities.

CARE has parcels stored in warehouses in many parts of Europe and in the Far East. When orders for gifts are received, deliveries are made from these storage places, or the people come to the warehouses.

The "besieged" city of Berlin is receiving shipments of CARE supplies by airplane. A slight extra charge is made for most of these packages to cover transportation costs.

Welfare association officials say that when the European Recovery Program went into effect many Americans stopped making donations to CARE. But the idea that the Marshall Plan makes CARE unnecessary is a mistaken one. The main purpose of the ERP is to furnish such items as industrial equipment, raw materials, and farm machinery. Gifts of food and clothing from relief agencies like CARE are still badly needed.

Contributions to the organization, or inquiries about its service, should be sent to your local CARE office; to CARE, Inc., 50 Broad Street, New York 4, New York; or to CARE, Inc., Dupont Circle Building, Washington, D. C.

## Our Readers Say—

In the November 15th issue, Kenneth Larson suggests that the Berlin question be solved by turning the entire matter over to the United Nations and letting that organization send a police force to take charge of the German capital. Isn't Mr. Larson forgetting that the UN does not have a police force yet and that this is due to the differences between Russia and the Western powers? In my opinion, if the major powers could agree on a solution to the Berlin problem, many other issues, including that of a world police force, would also be solved.

HELEN VAN DOREN,  
Washington, D. C.

★ ★ ★

An article in your November 15th issue states that some people want to see the Nationalists defeat the Communists in China because they feel it is to our advantage. In my opinion, it is wrong to stress the benefits America would receive from an independent Chinese nation. I believe we should help China for her own sake, not ours.

CAROL LOU NEUSTADTER,  
Brighton, Massachusetts.

★ ★ ★

In the November 8th issue, you ran a picture containing the name of a Welsh village. Since I come from Manchester, England and have visited Wales often, you might be interested in knowing that the name means "The church of St. Mary in a hollow of white hazel near

## Your Vocabulary

In each of the following sentences, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 6, column 4.

1. It seemed a *propitious* (prō-pī-shus) time for the announcement. (a) unfortunate (b) dangerous (c) unfavorable (d) favorable.

2. The instrument could *simulate* (sim'yū-lāt) a person's voice. (a) record (b) imitate (c) recognize (d) understand.

3. There is a *paucity* (paw'si-ti) of knowledge about that subject. (a) scarcity (b) misunderstanding (c) great deal (d) similarity.

4. He was convicted of a *heinous* (hā'nus) offense. (a) atrocious (b) minor (c) technical (d) traffic.

5. None of the native foods were *palatable* (pal'āt-ā-bl). (a) agreeable to the taste (b) spicy or well-seasoned (c) healthful and invigorating.

6. The climate made some of the people *indolent* (in'dō-lent). (a) lazy (b) active (c) cross (d) uncomfortable.

7. We thought his statement was a *fallacy* (fal'ī-si). (a) common belief (b) mistaken idea (c) intentional lie.

8. We expected *dire* (dīr) results from his action. (a) improved (b) concrete (c) terrible (d) immediate (e) unfavorable.

Since the average family in Berlin has only enough coal to heat one room for two hours a day, very little of the fuel can be used for cooking purposes. Many foods are therefore being cooked by the United States Army before they reach the Berlin housewives. This means that the foods require only warming up instead of complete cooking, and much fuel is saved.

the rapid whirlpool and St. Tysilio's church near a red cave."

LMS on the board in the picture refers to the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company.

MARY REID,  
St. Louis, Missouri

★ ★ ★

During the last year, I have read practically every letter that was printed in your paper and yet I have seen very few contributions from readers in Vermont. Could it be that students in this state are not interested in world affairs? I believe that the Readers Say column provides young people with an excellent opportunity to express themselves and I hope that my fellow-Vermonters will take advantage of it in the future.

ELAINE ALLEN,  
St. Albans, Vermont





# The Story of the Week



ALEXANDER IN PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN

CIVIL WAR has added to China's tragedy

## Round Four

During the coming months, much will be heard about a "fourth round" of wage increases. At the recent convention of the Congress of Industrial Organization in Portland, Oregon, certain labor leaders indicated that they felt further wage increases are due. Talk of wage raises was also heard at the American Federation of Labor meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio. Of the 15 million or so Americans who belong to unions, about 13 million belong to one or the other of these groups.

In support of their stand, labor leaders say that wages are still lagging behind prices. They point out that many companies are making the largest profits in history and say that such businesses can afford to pay more for labor.

Those who oppose further wage increases at this time say that costs of raw materials and machinery have risen greatly during the past few years, and that further wage raises will mean only increased prices. Inflation, they say, will thus be further intensified.

The "fourth round" gets its name from the number of general wage increases which have taken place in the nation's major industries since the war. The "first round" took place in the spring of 1946 and amounted to about 18½ cents an hour. The "second round," coming in the spring of 1947, brought an hourly pay raise of about 15 cents to large numbers of workers. The "third round" occurred earlier this year in some of the large industries, and averaged between 10 and 15 cents an hour.

## America Produces

The American people are producing goods and services at a rate greater than ever before. Figures recently released by the Commerce Department show that the output for the third quarter of 1948—that is, the months of July, August, and September—was at the record-breaking rate of 256 billion dollars a year. That was 6 billion dollars higher than the rate of the preceding three months.

This achievement reflects, among

other things, the high employment which has been made possible by an unprecedented, postwar demand for many kinds of goods and services that were unavailable during the war years. Although demand is beginning to let up slightly in some fields, business leaders generally believe that production will continue at its present high peak for some time to come. They point out that there is still an unsatisfied demand for homes, automobiles, certain household equipment, and many other types of goods and services.

## Hirohito's Future?

Now that the war trials have ended in Japan and death sentences have been handed out to Tojo and certain other criminals, renewed speculation is taking place concerning the future of Emperor Hirohito. While the head of Japan's royal family was not prosecuted, many feel that he should not be let off, scot-free. These critics contend that the Emperor could not

help but have been responsible to some degree for Japan's aggression. In fact, at least one of the judges who presided over the recent trials holds this opinion.

In view of this widespread feeling, many Japanese think that Hirohito should abdicate and turn the throne over to his 15-year-old son. They say that it would be better to have a ruler who could not conceivably have been involved in Japan's plans of aggression than to have one whose reputation would always be under a cloud. Hirohito himself has not disclosed his feeling on the subject.

Since the war, the position of the Japanese Emperor has radically changed. Whereas he was formerly considered to have divine powers and was kept completely aloof from his people, he now mingles with his subjects on frequent occasions, visiting mines and factories and attending sporting events. However, it is difficult to determine to what degree his actions are an expression of true democracy and to what degree they are simply an attempt to please the American occupation authorities.

## Fight on Filibusters

Filibustering—the practice of holding up legislation in the Senate by prolonged talking—is again under attack. For many years, this tactic has been used from time to time by a few senators who, acting against the wishes of a majority of their colleagues, have wanted to keep a particular issue from being brought to a vote. The latest proposal for dealing with filibustering comes from Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan.

Senator Vandenberg suggests that whenever 90, or perhaps 95 per cent of the senators want to take final action on an issue, they should be given the power to do so. The Michigan senator fears that, under the present rule, one or two senators might be able to hold up the wishes of the American people in a time of national

emergency when action is imperative. It is recalled that in the past a single senator has talked for as long as 18 hours, while two or three senators—speaking alternately—have held up action much longer.

At present, a device known as "cloture" may be used to end debate on "pending business," but on a motion to take up "new business," there is no such rule and unlimited discussion is permitted. It is this technicality in the rules which makes it possible for filibusters to take place. Senator Vandenberg is hopeful that the Senate in its next session will take steps to eliminate this loophole.

## Football Wind-up

With the football season already finished in most parts of the country, pigskin fans are concentrating their attention on the outcome of the hard-fought races still in progress in the professional leagues, and on the various college "bowl games" scheduled for New Year's Day.

The two major professional leagues—the All-America Conference and the National League—will end their play about the middle of this month. Each league will have a championship game in which the winners of the eastern and western divisions will meet.

However, there will be no "World Series" between the winners of the two leagues. Despite the popular demand for a play-off of this kind, the All-America Conference and the National League still look upon each other as rivals and have never allowed competition between the two circuits.

At this writing, the three top teams in the National League are the Chicago Bears and Cardinals and the Philadelphia Eagles. The Eagles are certain to get into the loop play-off, but it is not yet certain which of the Chicago teams will be their opponent. The eastern part of the All-America Conference is still tightly contested. Baltimore and Buffalo fought it out only yesterday for the opportunity to meet the Cleveland Browns in the



JAFFA, a leading city of old Palestine, is now controlled by the state of Israel





WALTER REUTHER is one of the labor leaders whose unions are mapping the strategy for another round of industrial wage increases.

championship fray on December 12.

Among the college games on January 1, the one in the Rose Bowl at Pasadena, California, is, as usual, expected to be one of the outstanding of the holiday encounters. The contending teams this year will be Northwestern and California.

Other New Year's Day games include—to name only a few—those to be played at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans, the Orange Bowl in Miami, the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, the Delta Bowl in Memphis, and the Dixie Bowl in Birmingham. Among the top-flight elevens to appear in one or another of these clashes will be Southern Methodist, William and Mary, Baylor, North Carolina, and Georgia.

Most colleges and schools have, of course, completed their schedules, turned in their equipment, and elected their captains for next season. One new captain whose selection attracted much attention recently is Levi Jackson of Yale. A star backfield man, Jackson is the first Negro to play football at that university. His unanimous election indicates the high regard in which he is held.

## Profits and Taxes

Tomorrow—December 7—important hearings on business profits and taxes will get under way in Washington. The investigating group, a part of the Joint Congressional Economic Committee, will look into the profits being made today in various businesses and—in view of their findings—will try to determine whether taxes should be increased.

The investigators, headed by Senator Ralph Flanders of Vermont, will also examine measures, such as rationing and price-wage controls, designed to cope with inflation. Among the witnesses will be several of the nation's leading economists. The information secured at these hearings, which will last about 10 days, may assist the next Congress in drawing up a new tax program and in taking necessary steps to combat inflation.

## For Cleaner Rivers

Pennsylvania is now trying to clean its streams and rivers in a 35-million-dollar project which is being followed closely by sanitation engineers in other states and in countries through-

out the world. The goal of the plan is to clean the pollution from the state's waterways which are the source of drinking water for some 9 million of Pennsylvania's citizens. The project marks the first time that an area of this size has waged such a large-scale war on a problem which has become increasingly acute in nearly all sections of the country in recent years.

Pennsylvania's clean-up program has two parts. The first is to stop the flow of waste matter into rivers and streams. The second part involves cleaning out silt and waste which have accumulated over many years in the beds of the rivers.

## Two-Term Amendment

Twenty-one states have now approved a proposed amendment to the U. S. Constitution which would prohibit a President from serving more than two full terms in office. In order to be adopted, the measure must be accepted by 15 additional states by March 1954.

States which have given their approval so far are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

People who favor the measure say that it is undemocratic for anyone to hold the highest office in the land longer than about eight years. Others argue that the rule ought not to be placed in the Constitution. Whenever anyone seeks a third term, they contend, the people should be allowed to decide, by their votes at election time, whether or not he may have it.

## Crisis in China

The crisis in China grows more acute. As these words are written, the tremendous battle around Suchow between the Communists and the



MORE THAN 100 new office and commercial buildings have been constructed in San Juan, Puerto Rico, during the past year and a half. This modern structure is a new radio station.

forces of Chiang Kai-shek is continuing. Although the Nationalist armies turned back the first assault on the strategically located city, Communist troops have regrouped and are stepping up their offensive.

Suchow is considered an important military objective by the Communists, for it controls the approaches to Nanking, China's capital, and to the entire Yangtze Valley. If Nanking—some 200 miles to the south of Suchow—falls, many observers fear that the regime of Chiang Kai-shek may topple. The outcome of the present fighting in the Suchow area will undoubtedly have profound effects on the future of China and perhaps all Asia.

American leaders are still considering Chiang Kai-shek's appeal for further aid. The question of whether or not we shall give China large-scale assistance is the subject of widespread discussion in the nation's newspapers, and is rapidly becoming the foremost issue of the day.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mother (after relating a pathetic story): "Now, son, wouldn't you like to give your rabbit to that poor little boy who hasn't any father?"

Son (clutching his pet rabbit): "Couldn't we give him daddy instead?"

★ ★ ★

A very stout man was walking on the promenade of a seaside town when he noticed a weighing machine with the notice: "I speak your weight."

He put a penny in the slot and stood on the platform. A voice answered, "One at a time, please!"



"To insure ourselves against any loss, Mr. Hurst, we require the names of two people who will put up the money for us to lend you."

A man traveling about the country stopped in a city long enough to attend a baseball game. He was startled to see the umpire sitting in the stands while calling his decisions. In between innings, he went over and asked him why he was there instead of behind the plate.

"Well," replied the umpire, "the spectators used to jump on me so much that I figured I could see the plays better from up here."

★ ★ ★

A man who ran for sheriff in a western town got 55 votes out of 3,500 and the next day he walked down Main Street with two guns hanging from his belt. "You were not elected, and you have no right to carry guns," fellow citizens told him.

"Listen, folks," he replied, "a man with no more friends than I've got in this county needs to carry guns."

★ ★ ★

The visitor paid his bill at the fashionable hotel, and, as he went out, he noticed a sign near the door, "Have you left anything?"

He went back and said to the manager: "That sign's wrong, it should read, 'Have you anything left?'"

★ ★ ★

Interviewer: "What have you to say about anonymous letters?"

Professor: "They're stupid! I read them but I never answer them."

## Study Guide

### Taft-Hartley Act

1. What is President Truman's stand on the Taft-Hartley Labor Act?
2. What provision does the act make covering the closed shop?
3. Give briefly the arguments for and against keeping this provision in new labor legislation.
4. Define a union shop. What are the arguments for and against keeping the Taft-Hartley Act's provision on this point in force?
5. What is a jurisdictional strike? What does the Taft-Hartley law say with respect to these strikes?
6. Briefly give arguments for and against requiring labor officials to sign oaths saying they are not Communists.
7. What kinds of strikes, according to the Taft-Hartley Act, may be delayed by court order for 80 days?

### Discussion

1. Do you or do you not think revisions should be made in the Taft-Hartley Labor Act?
2. If you are in favor of revisions, what parts of the law do you think should be changed?
3. If you are not in favor of changing the act, give reasons for your position.

### Military Union

1. In what way, according to Averell Harriman, will western Europe's economic recovery benefit if the nations' military forces are strengthened?
2. What important step have five European countries already taken to strengthen themselves against attack?
3. Which of the five European countries is the strongest from the military standpoint?
4. What resources do the other nations have that would be important in case of war?
5. Give the major arguments made by persons who favor having the U. S. give military aid to western Europe?
6. What are the arguments against such a plan?

### Discussion

1. Do you or do you not think western Europe's economic recovery will be speeded if we help the nations there to build up their armies? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Are you generally in favor of our giving those countries such aid or would you oppose the step? Explain your position.

### Miscellaneous

1. Why do we refer to the proposal for new wage increases as the "fourth round"?
2. What is the uncertainty over the future of Emperor Hirohito of Japan?
3. Why is the control of Suchow considered so important by both sides in the Chinese civil war?
4. Do the latest figures of the Commerce Department show that production is increasing or decreasing in this country?
5. What is the subject of the hearings that get under way tomorrow in Washington?
6. Why is a flourishing foreign trade so important to Japan?
7. Describe how packages are sent overseas through the CARE organization.

### Pronunciations

Hirohito—hē-rō-hē-tō

Suchow—shoo-jō

Yangtze—yāng-see

Chiang Kai-shek—jyahng kī-shēk (y as in yes)



# Shall We Give Military Aid to Western Europe?

(Concluded from page 1)

and the United States? Estimates of the total expense vary, but most experts believe the cost will be at least two billion dollars annually for several years. If other countries, such as Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Italy, are also included, the total cost will be much greater.

At present the total military strength of the five nations which signed the "Brussels Pact" is far below what is needed to stop the Russians, according to Hanson W. Baldwin, military expert for the *New York Times*. He expresses the opinion that these nations need to have larger military forces and more up-to-date fighting equipment, particularly airplanes, in order to have "a fair chance of holding back the Russians (in case of war) until American aid could arrive."

When we look at the military position of each of the five nations in the western European union we see that Britain is by far the strongest. Al-

spread out over a large area to protect their colonial empire.

The second strongest member of the western European union is France, which covers an area equal to all of New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. Its population of 40 million is the fifth largest in Europe, next to Russia, Germany, Britain, and Italy. But France has been weakened by two wars in the past 35 years and she fears that some day she may be attacked again, either by Germany or Russia.

To guard against attack, France maintains an army of about 500,000 men and a small air force. Although the French people know this is not enough to provide security from invasion, they are too poor to afford a greater military force. Even their present army is poorly equipped in many respects.

The three remaining members of the western European union are among the smallest nations in Europe

large producer of coal, iron, and other minerals, and has many thriving factories which turn out steel, machinery, and textiles. Both countries have good farm land and are nearly self-sufficient so far as food is concerned.

Should the United States give these countries military supplies and money to help build up their armed forces? So long as the "cold war" continues between Russia and the western powers, this question is likely to receive more and more attention. In the following paragraphs we summarize the arguments on both sides of the subject.

*Those who favor granting military aid to the western European democracies argue as follows:*

"Economic aid under the Marshall Plan is not enough. It is stimulating economic recovery, but it has not enabled the countries of western Europe to buy the guns, tanks, and planes they need for their armies. We must boldly face the fact that the Com-

for nothing if we allowed Russia to overrun Europe."

*Those who oppose the plan argue as follows:*

"Re-arming the nations of western Europe would cost us billions of dollars in addition to what we are spending already for the European Recovery Program. We cannot go on spending such huge sums of money year after year without running the risk of going bankrupt ourselves.

"Instead of sending guns, tanks, and planes to Europe, we ought to keep them here at home to strengthen our own defenses. The small western European nations will never be strong enough to hold back the huge Russian army if it ever attacks them, even if we give them mountains of modern equipment. They will be overcome and all the supplies we might give them would fall into the hands of the Russians.

"Giving arms to Europe would be more likely to lead to war than to peace. At present, Russia cannot honestly say we have warlike intentions because our aid to Europe has been entirely economic. But if we decide now to back this up with military aid, Russia will have good reason for saying that we are preparing for another war. The Russian leaders might then decide to attack the western European countries immediately and overcome them before they have time to build up their armies with American supplies."

## Record Album

A unique record of recent history—an album of five records presenting 45 minutes of the most significant oratory and other sounds of our times—is now available in book and record stores. Called "I Can Hear It Now," the album is the result of painstaking work by Edward R. Murrow and Fred Friendly. In producing it, the compilers spent two years in going over some 500 hours of recordings made between the years 1933 and 1945.

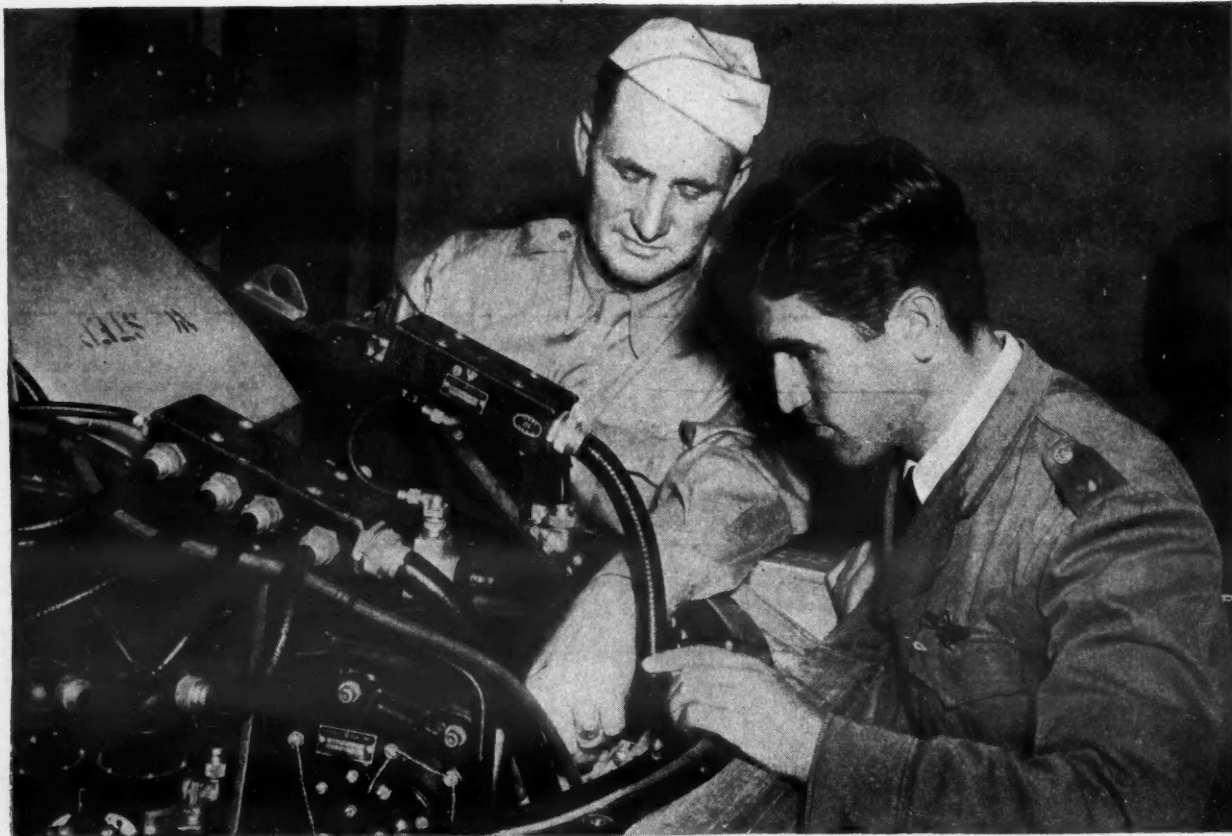
Here the famous voices of our era are heard once more. Will Rogers wisecracks. In the throes of the depression, Franklin Roosevelt tells the American people: "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." Such well-known public figures as Fiorello LaGuardia and John L. Lewis speak on issues of the prewar period.

War comes, and Adolph Hitler rants and raves while his audience roars in deep-throated approval. Winston Churchill, assuming office as Britain's leader, promises his people nothing but "blood, sweat, toil, and tears." An announcer interrupts a program on December 7, 1941, to deliver a special news bulletin: "The Japanese have attacked Pearl Harbor . . ." A voice from allied headquarters in England announces the Normandy landings.

All these and many other voices and sounds are a part of "I Can Hear It Now." This novel historical record recalls the spirit of this turbulent period with remarkable faithfulness.

## Answers to Vocabulary Test

1. (d) favorable; 2. (b) imitate;
3. (a) scarcity; 4. (a) atrocious; 5. (a) agreeable to the taste; 6. (a) lazy;
7. (b) mistaken idea; 8. (c) terrible.



AN AMERICAN trains a Turkish Air Force Lieutenant in our program of military aid for Greece and Turkey. Congress will soon discuss the question of extending that type of help to western European countries.

though it is a small island no larger than the state of Oregon, it has a population of 48 million and is an important manufacturing and trading center. It has rich resources of coal and iron and has close ties with Canada, Australia, and other self-governing dominions of the Commonwealth of Nations, until recently known as the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Because it is separated from the European continent by the English Channel, Britain is protected to some extent from invasion by land troops, but it is dangerously exposed to air attacks. For defense against aerial bombing, the British maintain a fairly large, well-trained and well-equipped air force. In addition, they have the second largest navy in the world (next in size to that of the United States) and a substantial army. The British, however, must keep their armed forces

—Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. Their total land area is less than that of South Carolina, and their combined population is only about 20 million.

During both world wars, these countries formed a battleground in the conflicts between France and Germany. They have suffered heavily every time war has broken out in Europe because they are too small and weak to defend themselves. Luxembourg, the smallest of the three, has a total population of only 300,000, or less than that of Columbus, Ohio. The strength of its army at present is only a little over 10,000 men.

Both Belgium and the Netherlands, like France and Britain, are highly industrialized and possess rich natural resources. The Netherlands ranks fifth among the nations of the world in shipbuilding, and is noted for its fine textile factories. Belgium is a

munist dictator of Russia, like Hitler and Mussolini, will attack his weaker neighbors unless he is stopped by military force. The United Nations, as everyone knows, is unable to stop aggressive action by one of the big powers.

"So long as France, Britain, and their neighbors remain weak they are in constant danger of being invaded. But if they can build up strong defenses and be assured of immediate help from the United States in case of attack, there is hope that Russia will never move against them. Strength, not weakness, is the best insurance against war.

"Our government has adopted the policy of fighting against any ruthless dictatorship which tries to conquer all the free nations of Europe. We have already advanced billions of dollars to help these countries get back on their feet economically. All this would go





JAPAN is a picturesque country, but her people have a hard time growing enough food on the mountainous land

## Progress Is Made by the Japanese

### People of Island Nation Must Increase Their Foreign Trade

A BRIEF description of the land and people of Japan will help to provide a better understanding of the problems with which that nation is grappling today.

Japan has nearly 80 million people—well over half as many as live in the entire United States—crowded into about as much land as Montana covers. Moreover, the “island empire” is so mountainous that only 15 per cent of its area is suitable for cultivation.

In spite of the small amount of ground that is available, the country's leading occupation is farming. On their tiny plots of land the Japanese produce sizable crops of rice, as well as some wheat, barley, potatoes, and live-stock. In addition, many farm families raise silkworms and collect the cocoons from which silk is obtained.

Fortunately the Japanese have been able to obtain large amounts of food from the sea. Fish are abundant in the waters near Japan, and before the war about 1½ million of the nation's people worked in the fishing industry.

For about two centuries prior to the 1850's, Japan had practically no contact or dealings with other countries. Finally, a little less than a hundred years ago, America persuaded her to establish trade and diplomatic relations with the outside world.

Shortly after the U. S. Civil War, Japan undertook to modernize herself. Then came a time of rapid change. The island empire became a great industrial nation, with steel works, shipyards, factories, a large merchant fleet, and many miles of railroads. Today her cities display a strange mixture of Oriental and Western styles.

The government, too, began “westernizing,” and for a while it seemed that Japan was successfully building a democratic system. Eventually, though, a military dictatorship developed, and the nation's industrial power was put to use preparing for aggressive war. Japan's leaders hoped to use the resources of conquered lands for the benefit of the crowded island empire, but their plans ended in disaster.

It is true that Japan needs, in some way, to obtain great quantities of products from abroad—particularly

such raw materials as cotton, petroleum, and iron. If she is to prosper as a peaceful nation, she must earn money to buy these materials by finding good markets abroad for the cloth, raw silk, pottery, machinery, and other items which she normally produces. Before the war the United States was one of her best customers, and it is probable that a lively American-Japanese trade will again develop.

Although the Japanese are well schooled, it is frequently charged that their education has emphasized only the memorizing of facts and has not taught the pupils really to think for themselves. This defect, many observers believe, has hindered the growth of democracy in the island empire.

A highly artistic people, the Japanese are very proud of their land's beautiful mountain scenery. Their country consists of a large number of islands, only four of which are large enough to be well known. These four are Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku, and Hokkaido. Like the United States, Japan has a wide range of climate, for her territory extends through approximately the same latitudes that our country covers.

Honshu contains most of the great Japanese cities, including Tokyo (the capital), Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Kobe, and Osaka. Hiroshima, the first city to be struck by an atomic bomb, is on Honshu; and Nagasaki, the other atomic-bomb victim, is on the smaller island of Kyushu.

## Science in the News

The Army Signal Corps has announced that a new altitude record has been set by an unmanned hydrogen balloon. Delicate instruments for studying the atmosphere were carried 26½ miles into the air by the new balloon—nearly four miles higher than any previous record.

Officials say that such flights not only give valuable information about weather forecasting, but also aid them in rocket-launching experiments.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service is making a survey of the sponge fishing possibilities in the Philippine Islands. This type of fishing is now done commercially in only two parts of the world—in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Caribbean Gulf region. As a result, sponges are very high and new fishing grounds are needed. If this industry can be developed in the Philippines, it will benefit that nation as well as the rest of the world.

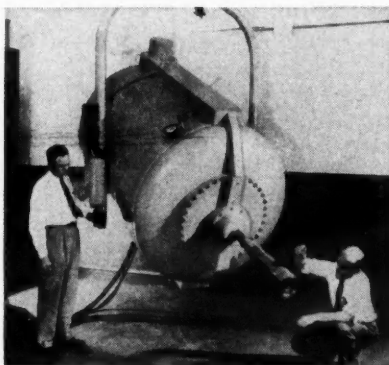
One of the youngest weather observers in the United States is 12-year-old Henry Ruppenthal of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Recently, he was appointed official observer for his town. Each day temperature readings, amount of rainfall, and any unusual weather signs are recorded by the youthful observer. An active Boy Scout and 4-H worker, Henry was complimented recently on the accuracy of his work by state officials.

A folding-type camera which can produce a finished photo one minute after the shutter is snapped will be available to the public in a short time. This “picture-in-a-minute” photograph is accomplished by a small handheld camera, which can be worked easily by even an amateur photographer.

The film is dropped into the camera, eliminating complicated loading of the film. After snapping the picture, the photographer presses a film release button, and then pulls out a tab on the film. In a minute, the finished photo may be lifted out by opening a little door in the back of the camera.

An electronic microscope which can magnify an object to 25,000 times its actual size has been installed at the University of Washington. A specimen which looks like a speck under an ordinary microscope may be enlarged to the size of a postage stamp with the new instrument. Already, the electronic microscope has been used to reveal new facts about wood structure.

—By HAZEL LEWIS.



AN X-RAY MACHINE, similar to this one, will soon enter the fight against cancer. Twenty women are raising money for the device in memory of a friend who died of the disease.

## Monthly Test

*Note to teachers.* This test covers the issues of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER dated November 1, 8, 15, and 29. The answer key appears in this week's issue of The Civic Leader.

*Directions to students.* In each of the following statements there is a word or phrase in italics. If the italicized expression makes a statement false, write on your answer sheet a substitution for it which will make the statement true. If a statement is true as written, write “true” on your answer sheet. Value: 3 points per item; total for section, 24 points.

1. Spain has not been admitted to membership in the United Nations because the major powers believe that she aided Russia during the war.

2. The Constitution provides for *direct* election of the President and Vice President by the people.

3. Under our electoral college system, it is possible for a presidential candidate to receive a *majority* of the electoral votes and yet have a *minority* of the popular votes.

4. *Local* governments pay more than the national government does in support of our public schools.

5. The number of voters casting ballots in recent American elections represents an *undesirable* trend.

6. Loss of the northern region of China is a severe blow to the Chinese *Communists* because this area contains most of the nation's *natural resources*.

*In each of the following questions and incomplete statements, choose the answer or answers which you think are correct and place their letters on your answer sheet. Value: 3 points per item; total for section, 27 points.*

7. The power to regulate most of the conditions of voting is held by (a) the national government; (b) the state governments; (c) the local governments.

8. One of the following items helps to explain why Indonesia has been and still is the scene of considerable strife: (a) the Indonesians are resisting the British attempts to govern all territory between Malaya and Australia; (b) the Communists are attempting to gain control of the government of Indonesia; (c) the Dutch and Indonesians are jointly resisting British and American attempts to establish strong military bases in Indonesia.

9. Which *three* of the following measures are likely to be recommended by President Truman in his January message to Congress? (a) Control by the states over the protection of civil rights; (b) repeal of the farm price support program; (c) strengthening of the Taft-Hartley law to control more closely the activities of labor unions; (d) federal action to encourage the building of more houses; (e) federal aid to education; (f) adoption of a national health insurance program.

10. About what proportion of the people of voting age in the United States cast ballots in the recent national election? (a) One-fourth; (b) one-third; (c) one-half; (d) two-thirds; (e) three-fourths.

11. Those who argue for greater U. S. aid to Nationalist China say that such aid will be used to (a) rebuild China's defenses against future threats of Japanese aggression; (b) protect the interests of large Chinese landowners and businessmen; (c) help stop the spread of Communism in Asia; (d) strengthen an already inefficient, corrupt, and undemocratic government.

12. America's DP law requires displaced persons entering this country to meet *two* of the following conditions: (a) they must understand English; (b) they must have homes and job opportunities guaranteed before arrival here; (c) they must meet health requirements of our immigration laws; (d) they must not be orphans; (e) they must be farm workers.

(Concluded on page 8)



## Monthly Test

(Concluded from page 7)

After the corresponding number on your answer sheet for each of the following items, write the word or words that best complete the statement. Value: 2 points per item; total for section, 26 points.

13. Those who oppose admitting Spain to membership in the United Nations say that the country is a \_\_\_\_\_.

14. Each state has as many electors in the electoral college as it has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

15. The Renville Agreement, which was drawn up by the Committee of Good Offices appointed by the \_\_\_\_\_, represents an attempt to settle the differences that have arisen between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

16. According to the electoral system, if no presidential candidate receives a majority of the electoral votes, then the members of the \_\_\_\_\_ select the President.

17. Those who support the Franco government in Spain contend that if it had not gained control, Spain would have fallen into the hands of the \_\_\_\_\_.

18. "Strengthening the Foundations of Freedom" was the theme for National \_\_\_\_\_ Week.

19. An \_\_\_\_\_ citizenry is essential for the successful operation of a democratic government.

20. The number of electoral votes required to elect the President is \_\_\_\_\_.

21. The two major problems of Sweden are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Listed below are the members of President Truman's cabinet. Choose the correct title for each individual from the list below. Write the capital letter which precedes the title opposite the number of the person to whom it applies. Value: 2 points per item; total for section, 18 points.

22. James Forrestal
23. Tom Clark
24. John Snyder
25. Maurice Tobin
26. Jesse Donaldson
27. Charles Sawyer
28. George Marshall
29. Julius Krug
30. Charles Brannan

- A. Secretary of Commerce
- B. Secretary of War
- C. Postmaster General
- D. Secretary of the Interior
- E. Secretary of Defense
- F. Secretary of Labor
- G. Secretary of the Navy
- H. Secretary of State
- I. Attorney General
- J. Secretary of Agriculture
- K. Secretary of the Treasury

In each of the following items, select the word or phrase which most nearly defines the word in *italics* and write its letter on your answer sheet. Value: 1 point per item; total for section, 5 points.

31. She appeared *perturbed* over the incident. (a) disturbed (b) sad (c) pleased (d) unreasonable.

32. Do you consider that information *authentic*? (a) valuable (b) unreliable (c) necessary (d) trustworthy.

33. Her *animation* added to her charm. (a) sincerity (b) tact (c) liveliness (d) beauty.

34. The man was not very *circumspect* in his actions. (a) kindly (b) careful (c) tolerant (d) skillful.

35. I should like to *reiterate* that statement. (a) prove (b) disprove (c) repeat (d) question.

## Careers for Tomorrow - - Barber, Beautician

A CAREER as a beautician or barber may offer a young person a fairly good financial reward in view of the brief period of training it requires. Within a few months after finishing high school, young men or women can complete courses in a barber's or beautician's school. They will not, of course, be ready to take a top position in the field. But they will be prepared to secure a beginning job.

The activities of persons engaged in this trade are too well known to require much discussion. Both the beautician and the barber must understand the techniques of cutting hair and giving shampoos and facial treatments. They must be familiar with the preparations and lotions used in the trade, and they must know how to care for the instruments they use. The barber must be able to give a shave, and the beautician must know how to give manicures and permanent waves.

All these skills and techniques are taught at the special schools which train people for work of this kind. Young people going into the field should be sure that they attend recognized schools. A list can be secured from the State Board of Education in each state.

After young people have completed their training, they must usually be licensed by the state before they can secure a job. Exact information about the requirements for the license can be obtained from the State Board of Barber Examiners or from the

State Board of Cosmetologists of the state in which one wants to work. These are usually located in the state capital, but the exact address may be secured from a barber or beautician in any community.

Persons in this work should be able to use their hands skillfully, they must be in good health, and they must have good vision. An artistic sense that enables them to bring out the best qualities in another's appearance is



YOUNG PEOPLE may find satisfying careers in being barbers or beauticians

also helpful. But above all, the barber or beautician must have a pleasing personality. A cheerful disposition, the ability to converse easily, and the ability to show a keen interest in another's problems are valuable assets to a person engaged in this work.

Incomes for barbers and beauticians vary widely. In almost all establishments, an operator receives a fixed salary. This may range from \$25 to \$50 a week. A large part of the in-

come, though, comes from commissions and tips. Barbers and beauticians usually are paid a percentage of the fees their customers pay the shop, and they can keep all they receive in tips.

Income of an individual operator depends to a considerable extent, therefore, on his own energy, skill, and personality. If he can attract and keep a large number of customers, his earnings will be high.

The field offers numerous opportunities for advancement. A beautician may become assistant manager or general manager in a small shop, or she may shift to other occupations related to the work. She may, for instance, become a cosmetic consultant, a writer on beauty subjects for a magazine, or a sales person for a cosmetic firm. A barber may advance to similar positions in his field.

Persons in either branch of this trade, with the exception of manicurists, must stand on their feet most of the time, and they must work hardest just before week-ends and holidays. Otherwise, the conditions under which a barber or beautician works are generally pleasant.

While the introduction of "home permanents" has cut the demand for the beautician's services somewhat, outlook for employment in this field is good. Men will always need barbers, and women will usually "cut corners" to have the services of a beautician.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

## Historical Backgrounds - - District of Columbia

ONE of the questions to be debated by the new Congress which meets in January is whether residents of Washington, D. C., should be granted the right to vote. This issue has come before every Congress for many years but, thus far, to no avail.

The approximately 800,000 men and women who live and work in Washington are not allowed to elect any of their city officials, nor do they have the privilege of voting for the President and members of Congress. The District of Columbia has a larger population than any one of about a dozen states and its citizens pay more into the National Treasury than do the citizens of many states, and yet its people do not have the right to vote.

The government of the District of Columbia is different from that of any other city. Day-to-day matters are

handled by a three-man Board of Commissioners appointed by the President, while all laws are passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate, and are signed by the Chief Executive.

Those who are in favor of home rule for the capital city point out that this system is slow and cumbersome, and that the attention of Congress is diverted from important national and international matters. Each year about 175 separate bills concerning only the District of Columbia are introduced into the national legislature.

To find the reason why this situation exists, it is necessary to look back to the beginnings of our nation. In the early days Congress did not have a regular meeting place and its sessions were held in first one community and then another. Our country's leaders soon saw that they would have to find a permanent site to hold their meetings, one where federal troops could protect the delegates and where no one state could exercise authority over the proceedings.

When the new Constitution was drawn up in 1787, it provided that Congress should have full power to govern a "district" which would be the seat of the national government. The framers of the Constitution did not have any particular place in mind, but shortly after the Constitution went into effect, Maryland and Virginia gave the government land along the Potomac River for a "Federal Town."

The Constitution made no provision for the election of Congressmen by the residents of the capital city. In those days no one thought that Washington

would grow into one of the nation's twelve largest cities. They expected that its population would be small, made up chiefly of government officials and their families.

During the years from 1802 until 1871, Washingtonians were allowed to take some part in managing their city. The townspeople were allowed to elect a council and, for a number of years, a mayor. The council, however, could not act without the consent of Congress and, because of this divided authority, the city was poorly governed. In 1871 Congress took away the right of the residents of the District to elect their local officials and in 1878 the present form of government was established.

Since that time, many permanent residents of the capital city have worked hard to gain the right to manage their own affairs and also to be allowed to vote for the President and to elect representatives to Congress. Their efforts have been opposed by some Congressmen who fear that a locally elected government would not act in the interest of the national government. Since this is the nation's city and belongs to all the states, they believe that it should be governed by representatives of all the states.

In order for the residents of Washington, D. C., to take part in national elections, it would be necessary to pass an amendment to the Constitution. To grant them a voice in their local government, however, Congress would have only to pass a law.

—By AMALIE ALVEY.



The "Forgotten Man"